City Swiss Club

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NEWS FROM THE COLONY.

THE SOCIAL SEASON.

The first important function in the Colony, during the social season, will be the Annual Banquet and Ball of the Swiss Mercantile Society, which will take place on Saturday, October 16th, at the Trocadero Restaurant, W.1. Monsieur C. R. Paravicini, the Swiss Minister will be in the Chair. —

The Swiss Mercantile Society needs hardly any introduction, during the last few years they have gone from success to success; they have built up an organisation which can claim the admiration of everyone of our compatriots in this hospitable island, and one does not exaggerate, when one speaks of their work and achievements, as of national importance.

It is all the more to be regretted, that so many of the members, especially the older ones, show but little interest in the working of this institution. The Meetings are badly attended, and the same is to be said about some of the very interesting lectures, given by well-known lecturers. The Society is spending large amounts on procuring first class men to lecture on various subjects of general interest, and their laudable endeavours surely deserve a better reward.

Whatever the justifications are, for not attending the meetings or lectures, there should be none whatever in attending the Annual Banquet of this Society. The various committees, throughout the year have been working hard, and giving their services and work freely, and it is only right that they should get an acknowledgement for their services rendered.

This can best be done by attending their Annual Banquet, by doing so they will feel that their work is appreciated, and that they have still the support of the large masses of the Colony. We feel sure that such a spontaneous support will be greatly appreciated by all those who, throughout the year, are so generously and unselfishly working in the interest of the Society.

Furthermore the coming Annual Banquet is a splendid opportunity to re-unite once again old friends and members, and I would like to make an ardent appeal to some of my one-time co-workers in the Society, to come along and spend a few happy hours amongst the younger elite.

I feel sure that in doing so, they would pass a most enjoyable evening, and old and dear remembrances could be exchanged, old friendships could be cemented and new ones made. I have been informed from competent quarters, that the speech making will take but little time (the dancing is to start at 9.30) and therefore this excuse for not attending, which is so often used, will not hold good.

Let us hope then, that this event will also register a record attendance, the Society and their leaders fully deserve this support.

They ask you for it, and I feel confident that you are no going to let them down. The invitation to take part in this Annual event is extended to all friends, whether members or not, in the Swiss Colony. Therefore "Auf Wiedersehen" at the Trocadero Restaurant!

ST.

CONCERT NEWS.

"La Suisse Qui Chante."

I wonder whether you, dear Reader, are waiting for this article? Concert news are so commonplace these days that I expressly mentioned last week that this concert is a special one. I used this word because the concert is a new departure from what the two societies, the Nouvelle Société Helvétique and the Swiss Orchestral Society, have hitherto presented to you. You remember, of course, the joint ventures offered to you by these two societies some years ago when **Monsieur Jean Bard**, the dramatic author and professor of elocution at the conservatoire of Geneva, **produced a most interesting programme** from his repertoire of French poetry and prose; then a little later Frau Else Zueblin-Spiller under the title of " Erinnerungen an die Grenzbesetzungszeit," as our Schweizer Soldatenmutter, gave us a most interesting lecture with lantern slides from her varied experiences during the years of 1914-1919. All these programmes were framed by music rendered by the Swiss Orchestra and its soloist friends. — For two years the opportunity of a joint concert did not present itself, — but now it is here again and we want you to know about this new venture, we want you to make a note of the date, — we don't want you to miss it!

Have you heard the songs rendered by the Misses Marietta and Martha Amstad? If your Radio is a good one and gives you Beromünster to your hearts delight — then you must have heard the sisters Amstad. They sing the most lovely Swiss songs as soli, as duets, some from eastern Switzerland, some from the Suisse Romande and, of course, some canti ticinesi. Here just a few items to make your mouth water: " O du liebs Aengeli " (Bernese), " Schönster Abestärn " (vom Aargau), " Dr. Zauberspruch " (vom Pestalozzi), " Coucou, canari jaloux " (de Neuchâtel), "Sur la route d'Estavayer," "Dormi, dormi bel bambin," etc., etc. — all made and rendered to bring you out of yourself and take you back to Switzerland. The sisters Amstad are also known here to the B.B.C. — did you hear them broadcast from London last year? Well, — here is a fine opportunity for you to hear these famous artists close to in a comfortable seat in that very fine concert hall, The " Conway Hall."

But, dear Reader, this is not all. To take not only your heart, but your entire self right back to your Homeland for just one evening, I had the luck to be introduced recently to Miss Idy Frei. Now she also sings, but quite differently from the Misses Amstad. She Yodels! And can she Yodel? Well, — read these few titles: " Grüssti Gott mys Schwyzerländli," " Die Schwyzerische Meitschi," " Vo Luzärn gäge Wäggis zue," — of course, the latter everyone knows, — but you can't sing it like Idy sings it, — and by the way, Idy will show you what a strapping young Swiss girl looks like in real Schwyzertracht. —

I should, of course, say something about the Orchestra. That little band is an attraction in itself! (Blow your own Trumpet if nobody else blows it for you). Well you probably heard them last June at Central Hall, Westminster, and on many previous occasions, so they don't need introducing. They merely think that the picture presented by the above Swiss Ladies needs a frame, the Swiss Hymn at one end and the " Bärner Marsch " at the other, — a centre piece (to give the soloists a rest) by Mendelssohn, *comme pièce de résistance:* the approach to and the running through the St. Gothard Tunnel of our most famous Swiss trains by " Orpheus " — and more if time permits.

And do you know that this splendid programme can be heard for the modest sum of 1/8d. plus tax — a florin will cover the lot! Invite your English friends, so many have been to visit our lovely country this summer, — it will bring back sweet memories to them and it will make others wonder what it's like over yonder, " Aenet em Bärgli im Trueb."

Tuesday, October 19th, 8.15 p.m., Conway Hall (large Hall) Red Lion Square, W.C.1. — there's the date, the time, the place and the address, — please do come along, all of you.

E. P. D.

A FAREWELL DINNER.

Owing to the approaching departure from London of Monsieur Walter de Bourg, Counsellor at the Swiss Legation, to another post, the London Swiss Rifle Team, of which M. de Bourg is President, has arranged a farewell dinner which will take place on Tuesday, October 26th, at Pagani's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, W., at 6.30 for 7 p.m.

The Swiss Rifle Team extends a cordial invitation to all members of the Swiss Colony to attend this function. An opportunity will be afforded to representatives from sister societies, to voice their appreciation for the services which M. de Bourg has rendered to our country in general and to the Swiss Colony in particular during the last twelve years of his residence in London.

Tickets at the price of 7/6 can be obtained from Mr. A. Schmid, Glendower Hotel, Glendower Place, S.W. (Tel: KENsington 4462), Mr. H. Senn, 11, Hart Street, E.C.3, (Tel: ROYal 3924) and the offices of the Swiss Observer, (Tel: CLErkenwell 9595/9596).

CITY SWISS CLUB.

The customary monthly meeting of the City Swiss Club took place on Tuesday, October 5th, at Pagani's Restaurant, some 30 members being present.

M. P. F. Boehringer, who was in the Chair, acquainted the meeting with the news, that M. de Bourg, Counsellor at the Legation, and for the last twelve years a member of the Club, is shortly relinquishing his post, having been promoted by the Federal Council to another sphere of activities.

The President voiced, on behalf of the members his deep regrets to M. de Bourg, who was present, for having to part company, expressing to him the thanks of the members of the City Swiss Club for the services which he had rendered during the long tenure of his office.

Messrs. L. Jobin, Billeter and Deutsch associated themselves with the President in his regrets and appreciations, wishing him a successful future in his new post.

M. de Bourg, thanked the President and the members for the kind words spoken, giving the assurance that, although far from London, he will endeavour to keep in touch with his London friends with whom he has always been on the best of terms.

The President then gave some information about the Annual Dinner of the Club, which will take place next month at the Grosvenor House.

M. A. F. Suter, gave a short *resumé* of the " Journée des Suisses à l'Etranger " which he attended in Berne on the 5th and 6th of September.

Resignations: none; Admissions: two.

SWISS DANCER'S RECITAL.

Inspiration from Pictures and Animals.



Several original dances of her own creation, including a new Temple Dance and a remarkable dance with masks representing the Spirit of Evil in varying guises, will be a feature of the special recital of dramatic and creative dancing which the Swiss dancer, Marcelle Valerie, is to give on October 14th at the Rudolf Steiner Hall. M. Paravicini, the Swiss Minister, is expected to be present with members of his staff.

Marcelle Valerie, who has been compared by a critic with the great Italian actress, Eleanora Duse, owing to the spirituality of her work, apart from its more dramatic form, has devoted years of painstaking study, not only to the technicalities of Ballet and Eurhythmics under the famous masters, Cecchetti and Dalcroze, but also to a thorough understanding of music at the Geneva Conservatorium. Marcelle Valerie, in fact, believes that a close study and appreciation of classical and good modern music are of immense benefit for the full development of a dancer's art.

This original Swiss dancer, who has previously given successful recitals of her work in this country, has always taken a deep interest in the allied arts of painting, sculpture and the theatre. She regards their study as essential in perfecting her dancing, which conveys to her audience her mastery of technique and at the same time appears so refreshing and original in her own particular interpretations of spiritual and dramatic themes.

Marcelle Valerie, although a devotee of the old masters in painting and sculpture, closely follows developments in modern art by attending all important art exhibitions. She has often found inspiration by studying the movements of animals at the London and Continental zoos.

DANCE RECITAL

MARCELLE VALERIE

Swiss Exponent of Dramatic & Creative Dancing

at

RUDOLF STEINER HALL

33, PARK ROAD, BAKER STREET, N.W.1.

on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14th at 8.30 p.m.

Frank Britton at the Piano.

French Songs by Gustave Ferrari.

For Tickets (3/6 to 10/6) 'phone BAYswater 1016.